

Application No.: 09/656,309

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Docket No.: 564462001620

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims as follows.

Please cancel claims 54 to 64, without prejudice or disclaimer.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

Claims 1 to 52 (canceled)

Claim 53 (previously presented): A method of generating a nucleic acid that encodes a polypeptide having a polymerase activity comprising:

obtaining a nucleic acid comprising a sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, or its complement;

modifying one or more nucleotides in said sequence to another nucleotide, deleting one or more nucleotides in said sequence, or adding one or more nucleotides to said sequence, to generate a variant nucleic acid that encodes a polypeptide having polymerase activity;

expressing the variant nucleic acid to generate a polypeptide; and

screening the polypeptide for a polymerase activity, thereby generating a nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide having a polymerase activity.

Claim 54 to 107 (canceled)

sd-280359